

REMARKS

Claims 18, 52, 58-60, 62, 67, 86, 87, 89-95, and 97 are now pending in the present application. More specifically, claims 18, 52, 58-60, 62, 67, 86, 87, 89-95, and 97 are amended and claims 1-17, 19-51, 53-57, 61, 63-66, 68-85, 88, 96, and 98 are canceled.

A- Objections To The Specification

The specification was objected to as allegedly failing to provide proper antecedent basis for claims 29, 37, and 38. This objection has been rendered moot since claims 29, 37, and 38 are now cancelled.

B- Amendment To The Abstract

The Abstract is amended as shown above.

C- Allowable Claims

Claims 18, 52, 58-60, 62, 67, 86, 87, 89-95, and 97 were objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims. The Office Action indicated that claims 18, 52, 58-60, 62, 67, 86, 87, 89-95, and 97 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claims 18, 52, 58-60, 62, 67, 86, 87, 89-95, and 97 are allowable since they are amended as shown above to include all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

D- Claim Objections

Claims 5, 6, 12, 22, 23-30, 37, 38, 76-90, and 94 were objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(a) because the meanings of the certain phrases within the claimed allegedly required clarification. Claims 5, 6, 12, 22, 23-30, 37, 38, and 76-85 are cancelled, and therefore their corresponding objections are rendered moot. Claims 86-90 and 94 are amended to include the phrase “the at least one function.”

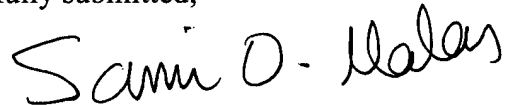
E. Claim Rejections

Claims 1-17, 19-51, 53-57, 61, 63-66, 68-85, 88, 96, and 98, which were rejected by the Office Action are canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Therefore all rejections and objections related to these canceled claims are rendered moot. Applicants are not expressly addressing the validity of assertions made by the Examiner regarding the cancelled claims since the validity of such assertions may not be relevant to the allowance of the currently pending claims. Therefore, Applicants should not be presumed to agree with any statements made by the Examiner regarding claims 1-17, 19-51, 53-57, 61, 63-66, 68-85, 88, 96, and 98 unless otherwise specifically indicated by Applicants.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 18, 52, 58-60, 62, 67, 86, 87, 89-95, and 97 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sami O. Malas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sami O. Malas, Reg. No. 44,893

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